



NOAA, NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE, WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

Miami, Florida 33165

Significant Weather Advisory Headline to be included in Special Weather Statements

Effective March 29, 2010, the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Miami will include a Significant Weather Advisory headline to Special Weather Statements (SPS) issued for strong to near-severe thunderstorms. This will not change any of the information contained in the Mass News Dissemination section of the SPS, nor will it change the current WMO ID WWUS82 KMFL.

The purpose of the Significant Weather Advisory headline is to give more attention to weather events which may not meet the National Weather Service's severe thunderstorm criteria, but still present a threat to life and property. The Significant Weather Advisory headline will be used primarily for thunderstorms that meet any or all the following criteria:

- Wind gusts of 45-57 mph
- Hail up to nickel size in diameter
- Frequent or continuous cloud-to-ground lightning

The headline will be added to the body of the SPS just below the Mass News Dissemination (MND) header. Below is an example of the format to be used for the SPS with the Significant Weather Advisory headline:

WWUS82 KMFL 022140
SPSMFL

SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE MIAMI FL
440 PM EST TUE MAR 2 2010

FLZ066-067-069>071-073-075-022230-
HENDRY FL-MAINLAND MONROE FL-INLAND PALM BEACH COUNTY FL-
COASTAL COLLIER COUNTY FL-INLAND COLLIER COUNTY FL-
INLAND BROWARD COUNTY FL-INLAND MIAMI-DADE FL-

440 PM EST TUE MAR 2 2010

...A SIGNIFICANT WEATHER ADVISORY HAS BEEN ISSUED FOR FAR INLAND SECTIONS OF SOUTH FLORIDA FOR STRONG WIND GUSTS AND SMALL HAIL VALID UNTIL 530 PM EST...

AT 440 PM EST NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE DOPPLER RADAR INDICATED A LINE OF STRONG THUNDERSTORMS EXTENDING FROM 4 MILES NORTHWEST OF SOUTH BAY TO ROTENBERGER WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA TO CARNESTOWN...MOVING EAST AT 40 MPH. THIS LINE OF STRONG THUNDERSTORMS WILL AFFECT MAINLY EVERGLADES SECTIONS OF SOUTH FLORIDA THROUGH 530 PM EST.

THE PRIMARY IMPACT WILL BE GUSTY WINDS OF 45 TO 55 MPH...WHICH CAN DOWN SMALL TREE LIMBS AND BRANCHES...AND BLOW AROUND UNSECURED SMALL OBJECTS. SEEK SHELTER IN A SAFE BUILDING UNTIL THE STORMS PASS. HAIL UP TO NICKEL SIZE MAY ALSO ACCOMPANY THIS STORM.

REPORT DAMAGE TO THE NEAREST LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OR YOUR COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

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Any questions regarding the addition of the Significant Weather Advisory headline to the SPS can be directed to the following persons:

Russell Pfof

Robert Molleda

Meteorologist-in-Charge

Warning Coordination Meteorologist

National Weather Service

National Weather Service

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